

DRAFT MINUTES  
GROTON HEIGHTS SCHOOL REUSE TASK FORCE  
REGULAR MEETING  
CITY MUNICIPAL BUILDING, CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

February 28, 2011

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The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m. by Chair Catherine Kolnaski.

I. ROLL CALL

Members present were Janet Downs, Marian Galbraith, Bill Hart, Catherine Kolnaski and Archie Swindell. A quorum of members was present.

Absent were Peter Ganacoplos, Mary Kelly, Dana Parfitt, Bob Peruzzotti and Ralph Whitney.

Also present were Town Manager Mark Oefinger and Project Management Specialist Holly Bridgham.

II. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS: None.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF February 7, 2011

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Ms. Galbraith, seconded by Ms. Kolnaski and so voted unanimously.

IV. ITEMS OF BUSINESS

1. Responses to Solicitations of Interest in the Property

Mr. Oefinger had no responses to report.

2. Review of Survey Responses

Mr. Swindell distributed the results of the on-line survey which he closed out earlier in the day. There were 119 on-line responses as well as 21 by mail and three by phone.

Members reviewed the responses which will be compiled by Mr. Swindell and included in the minutes of the next meeting.

Mr. Oefinger answered questions raised by the members, noting that most uses would require a zoning change and that there are no significant deed restrictions on use of the property.

3. Information from Project LEARN

Project LEARN is still looking at the property for use as a magnet school, but is waiting to hear from the State about funding. They will probably not be able to give the Town an answer until May after the State deliberates on its budget. The governor is considering reducing the State match to 80 percent, which may cause difficulty. It was decided that Mr. Oefinger should invite representatives from Project LEARN to report to the task force at the next meeting.

Ms. Kolnaski suggested that task force members might assist Project LEARN to obtain funding by contacting their State legislators. Mr. Oefinger replied that this issue will be brought up when the Town Council meets with Groton's State legislators on March 8.

4. Discussion of Preliminary Recommendations for the Property

Members decided that before any recommendations can be made, the survey results must be analyzed and more information received from Project LEARN.

5. Continuation/Adoption of Meeting Schedule

There was agreement to wait to schedule further meetings until representatives of Project LEARN are able to attend, possibly March 21 or March 28.

V. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Downs, seconded by Ms. Galbraith and so voted unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:14 p.m.

Submitted by

Janet Downs, Task Force member